

THE WOMAN'S WORLD.

(Continued from 6th page.)

forward into the future, is a goodly number of children, born of educated, respectable parents, and reared in homes of refinement and culture. I don't mean the refinement which wealth alone can afford, but the refinement apparent in the homes of poor people, whose brains have been educated and whose tastes cultivated in good schools or by contact with cultured people.

I haven't the least respect for your old bachelor who is too stingy to marry and establish a home. Why don't ministers preach the duty of matrimony more than they do? So great would be my pity for a woman who would be so unfortunate as to become the wife of one of these old bachelors who has lived nearly fifty years wrapped up in selfishness that I feel guilty in urging them to get married. There is a general cry in this country that men are less and less inclined to marry. It is bad enough for the dominant race to make this mistake. But since the great majority of colored people are ignorant and uncultured, from the very nature of the case, unless those who have been blessed with educational advantages and have a competence, establish homes and rear children, we shall be represented by the worst instead of the best element among us. I shouldn't feel so bitter against these old bachelors, if they had a good reason for remaining single. But I've made a careful study of the Washington species, and not a single one of the well-to-do old fellows has any responsibility which should prevent him from discharging his duty to the race. What beats me is, that they are not frowned down upon by good society. But they aren't. Everybody smiles at them and gives them the glad hand, just as they do respectable married men. Old bachelors should be boycotted.

Ladies and—but forgot the gentlemen have nothing to do with the following bit of information except indirectly. Rainy day skirts—those delicious, short, narrow, machine-stitched skirts, have come to stay. They are none of your transient, ephemeral affairs, here to day and gone tomorrow, but they will be with us 365 days in the year. What makes me so dead sure of this is, that I see the leaders of fashion wearing them on their shopping expeditions when there isn't a cloud in the sky. They are called rainy day skirts because you wear them if you want to, when it doesn't rain. We poor women, who have had to wear long, wide skirts on a rainy day, clutching frantically at them to keep them out of the germ-filled mud, know how to appreciate the rainy day skirt, I tell you. Long may it wave.

I hope you didn't fail to attend the Woman Suffrage meetings. Whether you believe in it or not doesn't matter. It will do your heart good any time to hear a lot of brainy women talk. A man said to me not long ago, in speaking about the Women's Conventions, "I don't believe in woman suffrage, you know, but I must admit that a gathering of these women can talk the boots off of any body of men I've ever heard."

If you know anything about women which is worthy of note, please let me hear from you, dear sister. The brother editor who said I "carried my facts with me" told the truth as far as he

went. But I must confess that I don't know everything. Strange, but true. If therefore, you are in the possession of any facts about women, which the public ought to know, no one will be more grateful than the undersigned, if you will put them in a letter and send to The Colored American addressed to

EUPHEMIA KIRK.

BETHEL LITERARY'S SCHEDULE.

Some Rich Intellectual Treats in Store for the Patrons of Washington's Historic Society.

Bethel Literary and Historical Association is enjoying a season of unexampled prosperity. It is doubtful if any corresponding period since its formation can this society point to a series of literary offerings, so rich in thought, so entertaining in character, or so varied in the method of presenting valuable instruction as has been given by President W. H. Richards in the past season and a half. He has put into this work all the vast resources of a well-stored mind and cultivated taste, and the results he is achieving must be gratifying to him. They are certainly highly appreciated by the public. His labor is a labor of love merely, but he performs it with as much energy, patience and fidelity as if he were in receipt of \$1,500 a year as compensation. He is level-headed and wonderfully even tempered—never disconcerted by mishaps or disappointments, never unduly elated by signal triumphs. Men like Prof. Richards are rare, and any community fortunate enough to possess one of his superior qualities should prize him beyond rubies. It is hoped that the electors of Bethel will be able to induce him to serve another term.

Following is the highly interesting program announced by Bethel for the next few weeks:

February 20.—"The Education of Girls in the Light of Modern Psychology and Pedagogy." Prof. Lewis B. Moore, Dean, Department of Pedagogy, Howard University.

February 27.—"Founders' Day." 1. Bethel Literary and Historical Association—Miss Maria L. Jordan. 2. Bishop Daniel A. Payne—Mr. William A. Joiner. 3. The Methodists—Dr. J. Albert Johnson.


March 6.—Address.—Mr. Lewis H. Douglass.

March 13.—"Domestic Service." (a) As an Economic Factor—Miss Ella J. Smith, A. M. (b) Its Difficulties—Miss Mattie R. Bowen. (c) Its Opportunities—Mrs. Belle M. Howard.

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